

A black and white photograph of a river or harbor. In the foreground, the corner of a boat is visible on the left, with some rigging and a small outboard motor. The water is calm with some ripples. In the background, across the water, there are several buildings, including a large one with a chimney, and some trees. On the right side, there's a concrete structure that looks like a dam or a breakwater. The sky is overcast.

**The Sheboygan River and
Harbor Proposed Plan is
still available...**

...and the Comment Period has been extended.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is recommending alternatives to clean up polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination for five different components of the Sheboygan River and Harbor:

Upper River Sediment

Alternative 3-IV-A—Under this alternative, approximately 18,200 cubic yards of sediment containing 93 percent of the remaining Upper River's PCBs would be removed from 26 highly contaminated areas along with the implementation of an extensive monitoring program.

Middle River Sediment

Alternative 2—Under this alternative, an extensive monitoring program would be implemented to gauge the condition of the river and potential human health impacts over time. Monitoring may indicate that a cleanup will be required in the future.

Lower River and Inner Harbor Sediment

Alternative 5—Under this alternative, approximately 100,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment between the Pennsylvania Avenue Bridge and the Inner Harbor mouth would be dredged. Dredging portions of the Inner Harbor to create a 14-foot channel and covering the remaining contaminated sediment with 2 feet of clean sediment will reduce the future release of PCBs due to recreational boat use. As with the other river components, an extensive monitoring program will be implemented.

Floodplain Soil

Alternative 4—Under this alternative, floodplain soil containing PCB concentrations greater than 10 parts per million (ppm) would be removed and disposed of at an off-site hazardous waste landfill. Localized areas of contaminated soil containing more than 10 ppm may be left in place, however, to avoid disruption to high-quality forested habitat.

Ground Water

Alternative 2—Under this alternative, additional ground-water investigations would occur to determine the extent of PCB contamination and potential sources. Upon completion of the investigations, a decision will be made regarding cleanup options, including natural attenuation (the natural breakdown of contaminants into less harmful components). If natural attenuation proves to be an inappropriate cleanup method, Alternative 3 will be used. Alternative 3 involves collecting ground water in a "collection trench" and pumping out the water and treating it in an existing treatment facility.

All of the recommended cleanup alternatives, as well as others considered, are described in U.S. EPA's Proposed Plan, dated May 1999 and a document called the "Feasibility Study," dated April 1998. If you didn't receive a copy of the Proposed Plan, you may request that one be sent to you. It is also available on U.S. EPA's web site: www.epa.gov/region5/sites. Once on this page, click on "Site Fact Sheets" and scroll down to the Sheboygan site listing.

For further information, you may review the Administrative Record in the reference department at the Mead Public Library, 710 North Eighth St., Sheboygan, or at U.S. EPA's Region 5 office in Chicago. The Administrative Record contains detailed information upon which the selection of a cleanup plan will be based. Refer to the Administrative Record Index to locate key documents upon which to focus such as the Tecumseh Products Company's Feasibility Study dated April 1998; the Wisconsin Department of Health's Fish Consumption Exposure Assessment dated May 1998; and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Aquatic Ecological Risk Assessment dated November 1998.

Additional Information

Your input on the Proposed Plan is an important part of the cleanup process. The comment period has been extended through August 13, 1999. Please direct your comments via U.S. mail (use enclosed postage-paid comment form), Fax or e-mail to:

Susan Pastor, P-19J

Community Involvement Coordinator
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. EPA - Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604
Fax: (312) 353-1155
email: pastor.susan@epa.gov

If you have any questions concerning the proposed plan or the documents in the Administrative Record, please contact:

Tom Short, SR-6J

Remedial Project Manager
Office of Superfund
(312) 353-8826
short.thomas@epa.gov

Richard Nagle, C-14J

Assistant Regional Counsel
Office of Regional Counsel
(312) 353-8222
nagle.richard@epa.gov

U.S. EPA - Region 5
1-800-621-8431
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Sheboygan River and Harbor Comment Form

U.S. EPA is interested in your comments on the cleanup alternatives indicated in the Sheboygan River and Harbor Proposed Plan. U.S. EPA will consider public comments before selecting a final cleanup for the site. Please use the space below to write your comments, and mail this form. Comments must be postmarked by August 13, 1999.

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From

Susan Pastor, P-19J
Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604